

HOUSE No. 1636

By Ms. Kaprielian of Watertown, petition of Rachel Kaprielian and others that the Department of Public Health be directed to establish a bladder cancer screening program. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Rachel Kaprielian	Barbara A. L'Italien
Kathi-Anne Reinstein	Jennifer M. Callahan
Louis L. Kafka	Frank I. Smizik
Paul J. Donato	Kathleen M. Teahan
Benjamin Swan	Peter J. Koutoujian
Cory Atkins	

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BLADDER CANCER SCREENING PROGRAM WITHIN
THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by adding the following new section:—
3 The commissioner shall establish, promote, and maintain a
4 public information program regarding the incidence of bladder
5 cancer in professional and volunteer firefighters in Massachusetts
6 in order to encourage such persons to seek medical care for the
7 prevention or treatment of any malignant conditions resulting
8 from occupational exposure to hazardous materials. Such program
9 shall be conducted throughout the commonwealth and shall
10 include, but not be limited to, pre-employment testing, annual
11 testing, and other follow-up testing as may be recommended by
12 the department; data collection of all incidences of bladder cancer
13 in firefighters and related professions in Massachusetts; and a pro-
14 gram of education for such groups. Such program shall emphasize
15 the need for annual testing and the need to remain informed about

16 additional developments concerning links between firefighters'
17 occupational exposure to hazardous materials and bladder cancer.

18 Said commissioner shall designate and may enter into contracts
19 with providers of health care and/or bladder cancer testing mate-
20 rials for the purpose of establishing regional screening programs
21 for firefighters and related professions. In selecting such provider,
22 said commissioner shall consider such provider's compliance with
23 state and federal standards, such provider's location in relation to
24 geographical distribution of firefighters, and the capacity of such
25 provider to properly screen for bladder cancer using the most
26 accurate and economically efficient means available.

27 The department shall make an annual report to the legislature of
28 its findings and recommendations concerning the effectiveness,
29 impact and benefits derived from such special programs. Such
30 report shall be filed with the clerks of the senate and house of rep-
31 resentatives on or before the first day of February and shall con-
32 tain evaluations of such special programs, and any recommended
33 legislation.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.